

Canadian officials are concerned that the enforcement and compliance with existing regulations may be inadequate.

In addition, as noted in a letter I, along with Senators HARKIN, JOHNSON and SALAZAR, recently sent to Secretary of Agriculture Johanns, there is concern, that not enough time has elapsed to be sure that Canada's education, surveillance and testing measures are truly indicative of their level of BSE risk.

The bottom line is this. Canada has not achieved the necessary level of compliance with OIE rules to justify designating it as a minimal risk region.

Canada's failure to enforce its BSE measures could have serious consequences if USDA proceeds to reopen the border.

First and most obviously, it would create potential dangers for consumers in this country.

Second, it would pose dangers for the health of our U.S. cattle herd.

Third, even if we do not end up with BSE-tainted imports, the perception of heightened risk for consumers could have adverse economic consequences for the U.S. cattle industry.

Finally, our major export markets have remained closed to U.S. beef exports, even though there has been no indigenous case of BSE in the U.S. I fear that reopening the border now, before we have reached agreement on reopening our export markets, will only give our trade partners an excuse to further delay reopening these critical markets for U.S. producers.

Yesterday's announcement by Secretary Johanns to restrict the importation of Canadian beef products to those from cattle under 30 months of age is a small step in the right direction. However, this announcement does not address the unresolved concerns about Canada's compliance with its feed regulations, which has been cited as the primary basis for extending a Minimal-Risk Region designation to Canada.

It was my hope that our new Secretary of Agriculture would withdraw the proposal to resume trade with Canada when he learned of these serious issues. But it now appears that the only way to stop this rule from going forward is for the Congress to block it. Therefore, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this resolution of disapproval.

Then perhaps we can have a meaningful dialogue on how to move forward in a way that will ensure the safety of the U.S. cattle herd and help open export markets. Our consumers and livestock producers deserve nothing less.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 49—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on

Rules and Administration; which was placed on the calendar:

S. RES. 49

Resolved, That, in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Rules and Administration (referred to in this resolution as the "Committee") is authorized from March 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005; October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006; and October 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. (a) The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005, under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,383,997, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946), and (2) not to exceed \$6,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$2,431,002, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946), and (2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(c) For the period October 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,035,189, of which amount (1) not to exceed \$21,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946), and (2) not to exceed \$4,200 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendations for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 2007, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required (1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Ser-

geant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services, or (7) for payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005; October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006; and October 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007, to be paid from the Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

SENATE RESOLUTION 50—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE FOR THE PERIODS MARCH 1, 2005, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005, OCTOBER 1, 2005, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2006, AND OCTOBER 1, 2006, THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2007

Mr. LOTT submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; which was placed on the calendar:

Resolved,

S. RES. 50

SECTION 1. AGGREGATE AUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying out the powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, and under the appropriate authorizing resolutions of the Senate there is authorized for the period March 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005, in the aggregate of \$52,563,753, for the period October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006, in the aggregate of \$92,292,337, and for the period October 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007, in the aggregate of \$39,287,233, in accordance with the provisions of this resolution, for standing committees of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Indian Affairs.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committees for the period March 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005, for the period October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2006, and for the period October 1, 2006, through February 28, 2007, to be paid from the appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations" of the Senate.

SEC. 2. COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized from March 1, 2005, through February 28, 2007, in its discretion—

(1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) to employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2005.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2005, through September 30, 2005, under this section shall not exceed \$2,090,901, of which amount—